APPENDIX

Revenue Act of 1932, c. 209, 47 Stat. 169:

SEC. 13. TAX ON CORPORATIONS.

(a) *Rate of Tax.*—There shall be levied, collected, and paid for each taxable year upon the net income of every corporation, a tax of 13¾ per centum of the amount of the net income in excess of the credit against net income provided in section 26.

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SEC. 52. CORPORATION RETURNS.

(a) *Requirement.*—Every corporation subject to taxation under this title shall make a return, stating specifically the items of its gross income and the deductions and credits allowed by this title. The return shall be sworn to by the president, vice president, or other principal officer and by the treasurer or assistant treasurer. In cases where receivers, trustees in bankruptcy, or assignees are operating the property or business of corporations, such receivers, trustees, or assignees shall make returns for such corporations in the same manner and form as corporations are required to make returns. Any tax due on the basis of such returns made by receivers, trustees, or assignees shall be collected in the same manner as if collected from the corporations of whose business or property they have custody and control.

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SEC. 1111. DEFINITIONS.

(a) When used in this Act—

(1) The term "person" means an individual, a trust or estate, a partnership, or a corporation.

(2) The term "corporation" includes associations, joint-stock companies, and insurance companies.

(3) The term "partnership" includes a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture, or other unincoporated organization, through or by means of which any business, financial operation, or venture is carried on, and which is not, within the meaning of this Act, a trust or estate or a corporation; and the term "partner" includes a member in such a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture, or organization.

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(8) The term "stock" includes the share in an association, joint-stock company, or insurance company.

(9) The term "shareholder" includes a member in an association, joint-stock company, or insurance company.

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(U. S. C., Title 26, Sec. 1696.)

Treasury Regulations 77, promulgated under the Revenue Act of 1932:

ART. 1311. *Person.*—The Act recognizes four classes of persons—individuals, trusts and estates, partnerships, and corporations. Corporations include associations, joint-stock companies, and insurance companies, but not partnerships properly so called. A taxpayer is any person subject to a tax imposed by the Act.

ART. 1312. *Association.*—Associations and joint-stock companies include associations,

common law trusts, and organizations by whatever name known, which act or do business in an organized capacity, whether created under and pursuant to State laws, agreements, declarations of trust, or otherwise, the net income of which, if any, is distributed or distributable among the shareholders on the basis of the capital stock which each holds, or, where there is no capital stock, on the basis of the proportionate share or capital which each has or has invested in the business or property of the organization. A corporation which has ceased to exist in contemplation of law but continues its business in quasi-corporate form is an association or corporation within the meaning of section 1111.

ART. 1313. *Association distinguished from partnership.*—An organization, the membership interests in which are transferable and the business of which is conducted by trustees or directors and officers without the active participation of all the members as such, is an association and not a partnership. The term "partnership" includes a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture, or other unincorporated organization, through or by means of which any business, financial operation, or venture is carried on, and which is not, within the meaning of the Act, a trust or estate or a corporation; and the term "partner" includes a member in such a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture, or organization. Organizations which have a fixed capital stock divided into shares represented by certificates transferable only upon the books of the company, which manage their affairs by a board of directors or executive officers, and which conduct their business in the general form and mode of

corporations are joint-stock companies or associations within the meaning of the Act even though under State law such organizations are technically partnerships.

Treasury Regulations 86, promulgated under the Revenue Act of 1934:

ART. 801–1. *Classification of taxables.*—For the purpose of taxation the Act makes its own classifications and prescribes its own standards of classification. Local law is of no importance in this connection. Thus a trust may be classed as a trust or as an association (and, therefore, as a corporation), depending upon its nature or its activities. (See article 801–3.) The term "partnership" is not limited to the common law meaning of partnership, but is broader in its scope and includes groups not commonly called partnerships. (See article 801–4.) The term "corporation" is not limited to the artificial entity usually known as a corporation, but includes also an association, a trust classed as an association because of its nature or its activities, a joint-stock company, an insurance company, and certain kinds of partnerships. (See articles 801–2 and 801–4.) The definitions, terms, and classifications, as set forth in section 801, shall have the same respective meaning and scope in these regulations.

ART. 801–2. *Association.*—The term "association" is not used in the Act in any narrow or technical sense. It includes any organization, created for the transaction of designated affairs, or the attainment of some object, which, like a corporation, continues notwithstanding that its members or participants change, and the affairs of which, like corporate affairs, are conducted by a single

individual, a committee, a board, or some other group, acting in a representative capacity. It is immaterial whether such organization is created by an agreement, a declaration of trust, a statute, or otherwise. It includes a voluntary association, a joint-stock association or company, a "business" trust, a "Massachusetts" trust, a "common law" trust, an "investment" trust (whether of the fixed or the management type), an interinsurance exchange operating through an attorney in fact, a partnership association, and any other type of organization (by whatever name known) which is not, within the meaning of the Act, a trust or an estate, or a partnership. If the conduct of the affairs of a corporation continues after the expiration of its charter, or the termination of its existence, it becomes an association.

ART. 801–3. *Association distinguished from trust.*—The term "trust," as used in the Act, refers to an ordinary trust, namely, one created by will or by declaration of the trustees or the grantor, the trustees of which take title to the property for the purpose of protecting or conserving it as customarily required under the ordinary rules applied in chancery and probate courts. The beneficiaries of such a trust generally do no more than accept the benefits thereof and are not the voluntary planners or creators of the trust arrangement. Even though the beneficiaries do create such a trust, it is ordinarily done to conserve the trust property without undertaking any activity not strictly necessary to the attainment of that object.

As distinguished from the ordinary trust described in the preceding paragraph is an arrangement whereby the legal title to the property is conveyed to trustees (or a trustee) who, under a declaration or agreement

of trust, hold and manage the property with a view to income or profit for the benefit of beneficiaries. Such an arrangement is designed (whether expressly or otherwise) to afford a medium whereby an income or profit-seeking activity may be carried on through a substitute for an organization such as a voluntary association or a joint-stock company or a corporation, thus obtaining the advantages of those forms of organization without their disadvantages.

If a trust is an undertaking or arrangement conducted for income or profit, the capital or property of the trust being supplied by the beneficiaries, and if the trustees or other designated persons are, in effect, the managers of the undertaking or arrangement, whether the beneficiaries do or do not appoint or control them, the beneficiaries are to be treated as voluntarily joining or cooperating with each other in the trust, just as do members of an association, and the undertaking or arrangement is deemed to be an association classified by the Act as a corporation.

By means of such a trust the disadvantages of an ordinary partnership are avoided, and the trust form affords the advantages of unity of management and continuity of existence which are characteristic of both associations and corporations. This trust form also affords the advantages of capacity, as a unit, to acquire, hold, and dispose of property and the ability to sue and be sued by strangers or members, which are characteristic of a corporation; and also frequently affords the limitation of liability and other advantages characteristic of a corporation. These advantages which the trust form provides are frequently referred to as resemblance to the general form, mode

of procedure, or effectiveness in action, of an association or a corporation, or as "quasi-corporate form." The effectiveness in action in the case of a trust or of a corporation does not depend upon technical arrangements or devices such as the appointment or election of a president, secretary, treasurer, or other "officer," the use of a "seal," the issuance of certificates to the beneficiaries, the holding of meetings by managers or beneficiaries, the use of a "charter" or "by-laws," the existence of "control" by the beneficiaries over the affairs of the organization, or upon other minor elements. They serve to emphasize the fact that an organization possessing them should be treated as a corporation, but they are not essential to such classification, for the fundamental benefits enjoyed by a corporation, as outlined above, are attained, in the case of a trust, by the use of the trust form *itself*. The Act disregards the technical distinction between a trust agreement (or declaration) and ordinary articles of association or a corporate charter, and all other differences of detail. It treats such a trust according to its essential nature, namely, as an association. This is true whether the beneficiaries form the trust or, by purchase or otherwise, acquire an interest in an existing trust.

The mere size or amount of capital invested in the trust is of no importance. Sometimes the activity of the trust is a small venture or enterprise, such as the division and sale of a parcel of land, the erection of a building, or the care and rental of an office building or apartment house; sometimes the activity is a trade or business on a much larger scale. The distinction is that between the activity or purpose for which an ordi-

nary strict trust of the traditional type would be created, and the activity or purpose for which a corporation for profit might have been formed.

ART. 801–4. *Partnerships.*—The Act provides its own concept of a partnership. Under the term "partnership" it includes not only a partnership as known at common law but, as well, a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture, or other unincorporated organization which carries on any business, financial operation, or venture, and which is not, within the meaning of the Act, a trust, estate, or a corporation. On the other hand the Act classifies under the term "corporation" an association or joint-stock company, the members of which may be subject to the personal liability of partners. If an organization is not interrupted by the death of a member or by a change in ownership of a participating interest during the agreed period of its existence, and its management is centralized in one or more persons in their representative capacities, such an organization is an association, taxable as a corporation. As to the characteristics of an association, see also articles 801–2 and 801–3. The following examples will illustrate some phases of these distinctions:

(1) If A and B buy some acreage for the purpose of subdivision, they are joint adventurers, and the joint venture is classified by the Act as a partnership.

(2) A, B, and C each contributes $10,000 for the purpose of buying and selling real estate. If A, B, C, or D, an outside party (or any combination of them as long as the approval of each participant is not required for syndicate action), takes control of the money, property and business of the enter-

prise, and the syndicate is not terminated on the death of any of the participants, the syndicate is classified as an association.

ART. 801–5. *Limited partnership as corporation.*—Limited partnerships of the type of partnerships with limited liability or partnership associations authorized by the statutes of Pennsylvania and a few other States are only nominally partnerships. Such so-called limited partnerships, offering opportunity for limiting the liability of all the members, providing for the transferability of partnership shares, or having other material characteristics of corporate form, must make returns of income and pay the tax as corporations. In all doubtful cases limited partnerships will be treated as corporations unless they submit satisfactory proof that they are not in effect so organized. A Michigan partnership association is taxable as a corporation.

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